

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A media stream system (140) processes plural media streams (148), e.g., speech streams or speech channels. The system comprises plural processors (146), each of which execute one or more plural types of media stream processing functions (147). A switch function (144) routes packets of the plural media streams to a sequence of the plural processors whereby the plural types of media stream processing functions are sequentially performed relative to the packets. A packet size for the packets is chosen to minimize overhead load on at least one of the plural processors without causing undue delay for a packet awaiting processing by the at least one of the plural processors. In an example non-limiting implementation, the packet size for a packet of media information is chosen to be 160 octets, consecutive packets of a same media stream being separated by a packet repetition interval which is 20 milliseconds.